Mr. K. T. Mathew.—When the business is changed?

President.—How many days before do you get this agenda?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—We got the provisional list 14 days before.

President.—You got the agenda also. How many days before?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Three days before.

President.—In that case you have been given sufficient notice of the alteration.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is there any point of order in asking whether the Diwan has given sanction? None. If the Diwan has altered the original arrangement, then, it is a question of fact. Then, nothing can be done now.

President.—There is a wrong basis, and we have to see what are the facts that will be supported by evidence. Then, we will also have to go by evidence.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—We do not want the facts to be discussed.

President.—Anyhow, I rule Mr. Kunjunni Raja's point is not in order.

Voting of Demands for Supplementary grants.

Demand XV—Law and Justice — Rs. 150.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 150 under "XV-Law and Justice, B (2) District Courts—Office expenses and Miscellaneous". Of the total allotment of Rs. 1,100 under the head, Rs. 500 was set apart for expenses in the Anjikaimal District Court. All but a sum of Rs. 7 has been expended, and a balance that now remains is hardly sufficient for meeting the requirements of the rest of the year. The excess expenditure has been mainly due to two non-recurring charges, viz., the purchase of Law books for Rs. 223-4-0 and an office clock for Rs.40-13-0. There has also been some excess under the recurring charges of fees paid to Vakils for defending the poor accused in Sessions Cases and the cost of printing judgments. As shown above, an additional fund of Rs. 300 in round figures is required for meeting all the charges of the current year under the head; but a sum of Rs. 150 has been found by transfer from the allotments under the same head in the Trichur District Court and also from the head "District Courts witness *batta*". The balance of Rs. 150 is now sought for as supplementary grant, there being no other source to secure this amount. I may inform the House that the Standing Finance Committee has approved this demand.

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Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—A point of order, Sir. When the motion like the one is made, is not the House entitled to know what the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee on the matter is? I heard it said that the Standing Finance Committee has approved of it. In Travancore the minutes of the Standing Finance Committee are published.

President.—There was a reference to that by Mr. Nunez. He brought it to my notice. Is it printed and published?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I do not think they are printed. They are printed only as part of the Council Proceedings in Travancore.

President.—Are they placed on the table at the time of discussion?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—If they are not placed on the table, it is practically useless for us. What is the use of appointing a Standing Finance Committee, if you do not know their deliberations?

President.—I think it is necessary that the House should know them. The work of the Standing Finance Committee is part of the Council business. The Members would like to know what were the points raised at the meeting. I think they should also be placed on the table.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I shall take orders on the subject and place them accordingly.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 150 for "XV-Law and Justice" by one rupee.*

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Sir, I have tabled this motion to draw the attention of the Government to the very insufficient and bad accommodation in the Ernakulam and Mattancheri Munsiffs' Courts.

President.—I want to know what is the scope of the discussion in regard to these cut motions. Are we to go over these items just as we do in the budget session, or to look to the allotment whether it is necessary for the purpose?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—These items are taken just as in the budget session.

President.—I find in the Madras and Provincial Legislative Councils they simply ask, and they are granted. I do not find much discussion.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—This is the only opportunity for the House to place matters before the Government and to express criticisms on administrative matters. We very seldom get such opportunities.

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President.—In the budget session you have got that right to discuss.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—That is only once in a year. In the course of the year I think it is the supplementary grants that give us opportunities.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—A reference to Rule 53 (ii) makes the matter clear.

President.—A lot of time will be taken, if we discuss them in the manner we discuss them in the budget session. But in Madras and other places supplementary grants for large amounts are placed, and they are passed off-hand.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They are passed in some cases after a long discussion.

President.—If that is so, we shall follow that policy. According to Rule 53 (ii) it is clearly laid down that discussion could be allowed, and so I allow the discussion.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Well, in any way, I shall not enter into any lengthy discussions. I just want to draw the attention of the Government to the very insufficient accommodation, particularly of the Ernakulam Munsiff's Court. Gentlemen of the legal profession who happen to go there will testify to that; I say it is practically impossible to get on there, especially in the summer season.

And another point that I want to raise in this House is that there is no place for the members of the legal profession to rest at the time when they are not engaged actually. I would like to urge upon the necessity of having at least a tiffin room or a smoking room—whatever you may call it—when they are not actually engaged in cases. We, Vakils, are as much officers of Court as anybody else in the profession. I suppose we are certainly entitled to at least one room in the Court-house at the expense of the Government.

President.—Were you getting on well in the old Munsiff's Court? Can anybody tell me?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—That place is so far away. It was very inconvenient for us to attend cases in District Courts and the Chief Court and also those in the Munsiff's Court.

President.—What you represented was this, "whatever be our inconveniences, we wish to be near the District Courts and the Chief Court". That was the understanding when we shifted here.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I do not know whether the Vakils represented that.

President.—It was at their request that the Munsiff's Court was shifted to this building. I was then in the Judicial

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Department, and I had to do something in connection with that.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The building was the Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. When the Munsiff's Court was shifted, he was put to a very great inconvenience for want of an office.

President.—Have you got any proper place to suggest which would be more suitable? Is it suitable for putting up additional accommodation?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I think, if we are given the Comptroller's Office, it will be more suitable. In any way, the present building is utterly unsuitable.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—The Municipal Office would be a convenient place.

President.—Is it enough, if you are given a waiting room? I know every one would support you. There is a real grievance in saying that there is very little space in the present building. It is very near the thoroughfare and people have to stand on the road, and there is heavy traffic, and it may bring about accidents; and the question is whether that locality is suitable for the court.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—My honest opinion is that it is not suitable.

President.—Somebody suggested the Municipal Office.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The Court was shifted to the present building at the request of the Vakils.

President.—I think this building would not suit for any purpose. This was used for a Primary school. Before that it was used for something else. The Munsiff's Court was shifted to this building, for the Vakils were rather eager to come near the Chief Court.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They thought that they could bring their grievance before the Government after coming to this building.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—They only wanted to come near the District Court and the Chief Court. There was no other alternative for us. It is really difficult to get on there.

President.—If there is any place more convenient than this, we shall try to give you that. In the absence of a better place, you were forced to accept this building.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Especially when the schools are dispersed, it is almost impossible to get on there. And further, the rooms are very insufficient and small.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—This is nothing when compared with the Courts in Trichur. I raised this point during the last

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budget session. There we have only a rotten old building, and there is also no space there. They get no breeze also there. Here at least they get that.

President.—There you have got courts in the first and second storeys. That is, you have got space there. This is the point of the non-official Members. No official is satisfied with the building given to him.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—It is hard to ask the Magistrate to sit in a small room in the hot season. Vakils, plaintiffs, defendants and all sorts of people are jumbled together in a small room. There is no space either to sit or stand. We feel the want of space very greatly, Sir.

Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.—I beg to second the motion. I may say hundreds of litigant public are put to more inconvenience than the Vakils. It is, I think, a subject on which very much comment is not necessary; because it is well known to all gentlemen who have had occasion to visit courts. Before providing any more accommodation for the Vakils, I would request the Government to provide at least some waiting-shed attached to each Court for the convenience of the litigant public. (*Hear, hear.*)

President.—Is there any other subject which has to be brought to the notice of the Government in this connection?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—If the Municipal Office building will be available, it would be more convenient. That is a better place, though small.

President.—Ernakulam being the headquarters, we want a number of buildings here. When I was at Trivandrum, I found they had a good number of spacious and beautiful buildings. There is ample space there for all offices. There they have got space for anything and everything. Here we have not that.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—We must have a new building for the Munsiff's Court. Further, the Additional District Judge has not got sufficient space.

President.—In the District Court building, there is not ample space for holding two courts.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Additional District Judge is given only a very small room.

President.—Why don't you come with your grievance here, Mr. Chummar? You have good reason for a grievance. You can put forward that there must be sufficient space at least for the insolvents to sit.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—My case is much more serious than those now put forward. The Office of the Official Receiver is now located in a small passage lying between the District Judge's chamber and the room occupied by the staff of the

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District Court. There is absolutely no convenience, for any work. There is not even room enough to put two chairs. That is also sometimes occupied by the clerks of the District Court. There is no room for keeping the records; much less for the office. I take the records and the movables attached to my house, and at times it is causing me much inconvenience.

President.—For the time being we have to get on. We must have a good building in order to meet the wants of so many. And then, in the District Court there are two courts, and near that the Bar Association quarters.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—If a portion of the Bar Association compound is taken and a building erected, there will be space.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Bar Association is bound to hand over any portion of the compound, if it is necessary to put up a building.

Mr. C. Matthai.—If the College is removed to Anappara, that building could be utilised, and there will be ample space for all these things.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—In the Bar Association premises a building can be put up.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There are a number of buildings there, and if a building is to be put up, there will not be sufficient ventilation. But the Special Finance Committee is always against putting up new buildings.

President.—We want buildings for necessary purposes, what are we to do? Probably, they think too much money is spent on Public Works, but they are spending only on useful purposes. There are certain necessary things we have to get through. I suppose you do not press the motion.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I withdraw the motion. I only wanted to draw the attention of the Government to these facts.

The motion was allowed to be withdrawn with leave.

The demand under "XV-Law and Justice" was put to vote and was allowed by the House.

Demand XVI—Jails—Rs. 3,200.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 3,200 under "XVI-Jails" under the sub-heads "Central Jail—Diet of prisoners—Miscellaneous", "Sub-Jail—Diet of prisoners—Miscellaneous" and "Jail manufactures—Purchase of raw materials".

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